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SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS:

Page 33, please replace the Abstract with the following:

ABSTRACT

The medical articles which ~~comprise~~ including the following: (a) a ceramic or metallic region whose surface ~~comprises~~ includes a plurality of depressions, (b) a multilayer coating region ~~comprising~~ including multiple polyelectrolyte layers deposited over the surface of the ceramic or metallic region; and (c) a therapeutic agent disposed beneath or within the multilayer coating region. According to another aspect of the present invention, medical articles are provided, which ~~comprise~~ include: (a) a ceramic or metallic region, (b) a multilayer coating region ~~comprising~~ including multiple polyelectrolyte layers deposited over a surface of the ceramic or metallic region, the multilayer coating region ~~comprising~~ including a plurality of protuberances; and (c) a therapeutic agent disposed within regions beneath the protuberances. Also described herein are methods of making such medical articles, and methods of administering a therapeutic agent to a patient using such medical articles.